

REMARKS

A telephone discussion between the Examiner and Dennis Smid (one of the applicants' undersigned attorneys) was held on February 17, 2009. The applicants and Mr. Smid wish to thank the Examiner for his time and consideration for such discussion.

Claims 2-4 and 6-8, and amended claims 1, 5, and 9-11 are in this application.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2002/0092021 (Yap et al.).

As discussed during the February 17 discussion, each of the amended independent claims has been amended herein. As a result, and as an example, amended independent claim 1 now recites in part the following:

"control mechanism, in the case where a plurality of predetermined different processing is simultaneously performed to the same said television signal on said desired channel by each of said signal processing mechanisms, for controlling said switching mechanism so that the signal processing mechanisms are collectively connected to one of said channel selecting mechanisms." (Emphasis added.)

As further discussed during the February 17 discussion, in the apparatus of claim 1, a plurality of different processing may be simultaneously performed on the same television signal. Such arrangement is believed to be described in the present application. As an example, reference is made to Fig. 3 and line 20 of page 39 to line 4 of page 40 of the present application.

As also discussed during the February 17 discussion, it is respectfully submitted that Yap as applied by the Examiner does not appear to disclose the above-identified feature of claim 1. That is, on lines 3-7 of page 2 of the present Office Action (and in response to the previous amendment), the Examiner appears to assert that paragraph 0087 of Yap discloses the above feature of claim 1. Although such portion of Yap appears to mention "simultaneously recording . . . two or more programs" and "simultaneously recording one program while viewing or playing back another program," this portion of Yap does not appear to disclose simultaneously performing a plurality of predetermined different processing to the same television signal as specifically recited in claim 1. Instead, such portion of Yap appears to disclose simultaneously subjecting different television signals to a plurality of different processing.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is distinguishable from Yap as applied by the Examiner.

For reasons similar to or somewhat similar to those previously described with regard to claim 1, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 5 and 9-11 are distinguishable from Yap as applied by the Examiner. Additionally, claim 11 also now recites in part "said first predetermined processing involves compressive coding at a first compression rate and said second predetermined processing involves compressive coding at a second compression rate which is different from the first compression rate."

Claims 2-4 and 6-8 are dependent from one of the independent claims. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claims 2-4 and 6-8 are distinguishable from Yap as applied by the Examiner for at least the reasons previously described.

As it is believed that all of the rejections set forth in the Official Action have been overcome, favorable

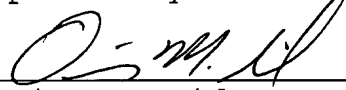
reconsideration and allowance are earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional rejections and/or objections which the Examiner might have.

If there are any charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: February 17, 2009

Respectfully submitted,

By



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